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THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM N.F.L.

Pages 4-5

ON THE SOUTH VIET NAM N.F.L. POLITICAL PROGRAMME

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STATEMENT OF THE D.R.V.N. GOVERNMENT

WHILE the entire Vietnamese people are celebrating the anniversaries of the August Revolution and the National Day of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam with resounding victories won on all the battlefields in both parts of the country, an historic event has taken place in South Viet Nam, filling with new enthusiasm the hearts of the people and fighters in the whole country: the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation recently convened an Extraordinary Congress and adopted its Political Programme.

Seven years ago, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation came into being with a 10-Point Programme, rallying and mobilizing the 14 million South Vietnamese people to rise up and fight unflinchingly and perseveringly against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their henchmen. Under the leadership of the Front and to put into practice the 10-Point Programme, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, in the countryside as well as in the mountain and urban areas, and on both the military and political fronts, have, in the mettle of the victor, attacked the enemy without let-up, dealing him heavy blows, crushing his "special war" strategy and defeating the first rounds of his "local war," liberating four-fifths of the territory and two-thirds of the population of South Viet Nam, driving him into a stalemate and issueless situation. The Front's [10-Point] Programme reflected the patriotism and determination of the South Vietnamese people of all strata to struggle for self-liberation. It has given full scope to its great effect, and has become the banner of unity, the banner of struggle and the banner of victory of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, and a shining, just cause which has won broad, powerful international sympathy and support, and enhanced more and more the prestige and influence of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, both at home and in the world.

Over the past seven years, the resounding victories recorded by our South Vietnamese compatriots under the leadership of the Front have made an important contribution to the defence of the North. They have greatly stimulated their compatriots in the North in socialist construction. They have set a shining example to their North Vietnamese compatriots in their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, in their determination to resist and defeat the war of destruction by the U.S. aggressors, and encouraged them to fulfil, with great enthusiasm, the duty as the great rear toward their blood-sealed compatriots in the South.

Now, the U.S. imperialists are frantically stepping up their war of aggression against South Viet Nam and brazenly escalating in a highly dangerous manner their attacks against North Viet Nam. Ahead of the armed forces and people in the whole country are the most arduous battles and the most glorious victories. It is at this juncture that the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has come into being, continuing and developing the former 10-Point Programme, following up the victories already achieved, and leading the South Vietnamese people to bigger successes and to complete victory.

As pointed out by the Front's Political Programme, "the tasks and objectives of the South Vietnamese people in the struggle for national salvation are now as follows: to unite the entire people, resolutely defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrow their lackey puppet administration, establish a broad national democratic coalition administration, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the country."

The Front's Political Programme marks a new development of the patriotic struggle of our compatriots in the South, brings into bold relief the objectives of the South Vietnamese people of all strata — to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their hirelings, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the country — which are the legitimate aspirations of the 14 million South Vietnamese people. The Political Programme is the manifestation of the most clear-sighted, most sensible lines and policies of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation to resist the U.S. aggressors and save the country.

It is the banner of great national union and an invincible weapon of our South Vietnamese compatriots to triumph over the U.S. aggressors.

The Front's Political Programme is a strong and lofty manifestation of the blood-sealed unity between North and South Viet Nam and the iron will to reunify the country.

The Front's Political Programme is the call for unity and combat of our South Vietnamese compatriots from the frontline of the struggle against the U.S. imperialists, which is echoing in the world, winning stronger and broader sympathy and support from brothers and friends in the five continents, and stressing the South Vietnamese people's determination to fulfil their internationalist duty to contribute with honour to the cause of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world.

The Front's Political Programme has all the more highlighted the role of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation — the only genuine representative of the heroic South Vietnamese people who are defeating and will certainly defeat completely the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their flunkeys.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the people in the North warmly hail and resolutely support the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. The 17 million fighters and people in the North pledge themselves to always be of one mind and stand side by side with their blood-sealed brothers and sisters in the South, to fight with valour and perseverance, to grudge no hardships or sacrifices, and to be resolved to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors in order to defend the North, liberate the South and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the country, thus contributing to the safeguard of peace in Asia and the world.

Hanoi, September 2, 1967

D.R.V.N. GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON U.S. AGGRESSIVE SCHEMES AGAINST CAMBODIA

SINCE the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China, the U.S. imperialists and their agents have been unceasingly attempting to sabotage the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

U.S. and puppet troops have repeatedly violated the territory of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Recently, on August 24, 1967, they again attacked the Cambodian Koh Rocar and Chom Samrar border-posts, causing many casualties to the people Along with military activities, a hostile campaign of slander has been started against Cambodia, and the U.S. propaganda machine has made no bones of U.S. intention to wipe out peaceful and neutral Cambodia.

Obviously, the U.S. imperialists are preparing public opinion for an aggression against the Kingdom of Cambodia, and an expansion of the war in the Indo-Chinese peninsula. Their acts and manoeuvres constitute gross violations of the Khmer people's sacred national rights, violations of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China, and a serious threat to peace in this part of the world.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam exposes the U.S. imperialists' slanderous charges against the Kingdom of Cambodia. It sternly condemns the U.S. schemes against the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people resolutely support the August 29, 1967 Statement of the Royal Cambodian Government and demands that the United States end forthwith its campaign of slander as well as its schemes and actions against the Khmer people.

Should the U.S. imperialists and their agents recklessly attack Cambodia in defiance of the stern warnings of the Royal Cambodian Government and progressive world opinion, they would surely be duly punished. The Vietnamese people unswervingly and resolutely stand at the fraternal Khmer people's side in the struggle to defeat the U.S. imperialist aggressors—the common enemy of the two peoples.

The Vietnamese people firmly believe that, due to their determination to fight and the warm sympathy and wholehearted support of the Indo-Chinese peoples and progressive mankind, the just struggle waged by the Khmer people under the correct leadership of Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk against the U.S. imperialists and their agents in defence of the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia will be crowned with glorious victory.

Hanoi, September 2, 1967

Stokely Carmichael Visits the D.R.V.N.

AT the invitation of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee, Stokely Carmichael, a leader of the Black people movement in the United States, recently visited the D.R.V.N.

Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam received S. Carmichael and warmly hailed the valiant militant spirit of the Black people in the U.S. against the U.S. ruling circles' brutal policy of racial discrimination. He expressed the Vietnamese people's staunch support for their just struggle for freedom and equality.

"The Entire Population Is Virtually Functioning as a National Militia."

David Schoenbrun, former Columbia broadcasting system newsman, is visiting Hanoi, as a staff writer for the newspaper *News Day*, Garden City, New York. We give below some of his impressions on the savage American raids on the central part of Hanoi City on August 21, 22 and 23, 1967 — *Ed.*

THE heavy U.S. air attacks on the capital of North Viet Nam have caused serious dislocations, much suffering and enormous difficulties in maintaining the life of the city.

Officials frankly admit grave problems requiring a huge effort to survive, but they also insist that the bombing has yielded them major political, psychological and social gains, creating a hard-line unity in the civilian population.

The result of the intensified bombing has been to considerably strengthen hard-liners... It has become very difficult to try to discuss possibilities for peace. Everytime the question of conditions for peace negotiations is raised, officials reply: "As soon as America recognizes our independence and withdraws foreign forces from our country there can be peace, not before!"

The government claims that more than 100 civilians have been killed or wounded in this week's heaviest raids of the war on August 21, 22 and 23.

I saw at least 10 bodies pulled from the rubble of a block of shops and apartments on Hue street in the center of Hanoi, a few blocks from Thong Nhat (Reunification) Hotel where foreigners are quartered.

Some 150 foreign diplomats, delegations and journalists witnessed the scene Tuesday when a 500-kilo bomb hit the heart of the residential section. Extensive damage was done to an eye-ear-throat clinic, with one doctor and one medical aide killed and several nurses wounded. There was also damage to the central cathedral and pagoda. The heaviest destruction came on Wednesday in Gia Lam township and the region just cross the Red River from an already badly hit Long Bien (Paul Doumer) bridge.

While admitting heavy losses, government officials insist that the balance-sheet is highly positive. The entire population of 16 million is virtually functioning as a national militia trained for all-out defence, prepared for any contingency, warned by radio to be ready for invasion by two million American soldiers. Every adult man and woman has a weapon. Serving girls at the hotel change trays for rifles within minutes after the sounding of an alert.

NORTH VIETNAM

Up to September 5, 1967

2,278

U.S. Planes Downed

News from LAOS

AN UNJUSTIFIABLE ABUSE OF POWER BY SOUVANNA PHOUMA ON THE REPRESENTATIVENESS OF Mr THAO PHENG

MR Thao Pheng was appointed ambassador to the D.R.V.N. by decree of Jan. 11, 1963 of the Council of Ministers of the Tripartite National Union Government of Laos formed on June 23, 1962 on the basis of the Zurich and Plain of Jars Agreements. This decision was approved by H.M. the King. He is thus the official and legitimate representative of H.M. the King and the Tripartite National Union Government. Nobody has the right to deny it."

This was the reply given on Aug. 21, 1967 to *Pathet Lao* Radio by Mr. Khamsouk Keola, Minister of Health and acting Foreign Minister of the Lao Tripartite National Union Government regarding a statement made by Souvanna Phouma to the effect that he and his "government" in Vientiane do not any longer recognize Ambassador Thao Pheng.

Mr. Khamsouk Keola went on, "Such a statement by Prince Souvanna Phouma is an unjustifiable abuse of power falling in line with the scheme of the Yankees and their quislings aimed at tearing away the tripartite accords, aggravating the situation and dividing the nation just at a moment when the Americans are stepping up and expanding their war of aggression in Laos.

"In my capacity as minister of the Tripartite National Union Government and representative of the neutral patriotic forces, I indignantly reject this statement by Prince Souvanna Phouma, considering it to be lacking in thoughtfulness and null and void. I declare that Mr. Thao Pheng is confirmed in his present post as ambassador of the Kingdom of Laos to the D.R.V.N."

Schools Remain the Targets of U.S. Escalation

IN their escalation in North Viet Nam the U.S. imperialists in August in 1967 attacked many schools, killing many pupils and teachers.

On August 1, 1967, U.S. aircraft dropped steel-pellet bombs on the infant school in Vat Lai hamlet, Phu My village, Quang Oai district, Ha Tay province, killing 9 persons including 5 children, and wounding 23 others.

On August 12, U.S. planes dropped 120 explosive bombs and 4 CBUs, and fired 8 rockets on the teachers' school in Hai Duong province, completely demolishing the school.

In their August 11, 1967 raids against the centre and outskirts of Hanoi, U.S. planes bombed and demolished the Phuc Tan primary and elementary school in Hoan Kiem district.

On August 12, 1967, U.S. planes bombed Thuy Cat school, Thuong Thanh village, Gia Lam district.

On August 22, 1967, U.S. aircraft released explosive and demolition bombs on densely populated quarters in the center of Hanoi, demolishing the office of the education department of Hai Ba Trung district, killing 8 teachers and wounding 7 others. On the same day, U.S. planes released steel-pellet bombs and strafed the Bo De elementary school in Gia Lam district, wounding 5 pupils.

The D.R.V.N. Ministry of Education on August 29, 1967 issued a statement strongly condemning these U.S. crimes and calling on educational workers, scientists and all men of conscience throughout the world to take concrete actions to stay the criminal hands of the U.S. imperialists, and compel them to put an immediate end to their massacre of children and destruction of schools in the D.R.V.N.

WHO ARE THE BELLIGERENT PARTIES IN SOUTH VIET NAM?

WESTMORELAND, the commander of the U.S. forces in South Viet Nam, while drawing his long bow on the sucesses of the U.S. troops, expressed his wonder why the enemy can stand such a deployment of U.S. air and artillery power and come back to continue his attacks (*USIS, Aug. 8*). There is, in fact, little novelty in this concession since for more than two years now, in face of more than one million U.S., puppet and satellite troops having the best equipment of the capitalist world and using a fire power which has far exceeded that used in any war of this century, the U.S. forces in South Viet Nam have had to accept the fact that the presence of the American troops and the puppet regime rigged up by Washington are facing more and more attacks from all sides and all sections of the population, from the intellectuals, students, pupils, Buddhists to the workers, peasants and even the business circles. All of them are struggling for their most urgent interests and at the same time for the common and vital interests of the whole nation, for the inviolable sovereign rights of the country and an end to the massacre of their compatriots, abolition of the dictatorial regime and establishment of a democratic and happy life for all. This is quite understandable, since the direct aggression by American troops and the U.S. policy of "enslaving the small nations and compelling them to accept complete dependence on the United States" (Hue Radio, May 5, 1966) have strongly aroused the national spirit of those still living in the U.S. and puppet-controlled areas. The fact is that except for a handful of traitors who have alienated themselves from the people and betrayed their country, the population of South Viet Nam urban areas have launched an anti-U.S. movement which has unceasingly expanded under more and more diversified forms. There are, of course, different political tendencies and also different degrees of struggle in this movement but it can be said that it is already a front embracing many strata of the population. The national spirit among these people has reached such a point that no deception or coercion on the part of the American occupation troops could shake it. When he was President of the United States, Eisenhower once conceded that should an election be held in 1956, "80 per cent of the [South Viet Nam] population would have voted for Ho Chi Minh" while the overwhelming majority would have boycotted Ngo Dinh Diem, a notorious hireling of the U.S. More recently, a personage who had served in the Saigon puppet administration declared that if they were to choose between a "Communist" government in the country and a foreign power, the South Vietnamese people would choose a "communist government" rather than be slaves to any foreign country (*UPI*, July 22).

PATRIOTISM VERSUS BOMBS

ALONGSIDE the development of the struggle of the urban population is a vast front of all the other strata of the South Viet Nam people, embracing the overwhelming majority of the rural population, though having different characters, is in practice very similar to French colonialism."

This could not but lead to a situation described by *AP* on May 1, 1966 as follows: "Everywhere there can be seen the same anguish and anxiety because of 20 years of war and bloodshed, of the sharp rise of the living cost, of poverty and the frustration about the way to a solution. That is the greatest threat... For the first time in many years anti-U.S. sentiments have quickly spread among the masses..."

Any impartial observer of the situation in South Viet Nam urban centres could not but recognize the fact that the presence of the American troops and the puppet regime rigged up by Washington are facing more and more attacks from all sides and all sections of the population, from the intellectuals, students, pupils, Buddhists to the workers, peasants and even the business circles. All of them are struggling for their most urgent interests and at the same time for the common and vital interests of the whole nation, for the inviolable sovereign rights of the country and an end to the massacre of their compatriots, abolition of the dictatorial regime and establishment of a democratic and happy life for all. This is quite understandable, since the direct aggression by American troops and the U.S. policy of "enslaving the small nations and compelling them to accept complete dependence on the United States" (Hue Radio, May 5, 1966) have strongly aroused the national spirit of those still living in the U.S. and puppet-controlled areas. The fact is that except for a handful of traitors who have alienated themselves from the people and betrayed their country, the population of South Viet Nam urban areas have launched an anti-U.S. movement which has unceasingly expanded under more and more diversified forms. There are, of course, different political tendencies and also different degrees of struggle in this movement but it can be said that it is already a front embracing many strata of the population. The national spirit among these people has reached such a point that no deception or coercion on the part of the American occupation troops could shake it. When he was President of the United States, Eisenhower once conceded that should an election be held in 1956, "80 per cent of the [South Viet Nam] population would have voted for Ho Chi Minh" while the overwhelming majority would have boycotted Ngo Dinh Diem, a notorious hireling of the U.S. More recently, a personage who had served in the Saigon puppet administration declared that if they were to choose between a "Communist" government in the country and a foreign power, the South Vietnamese people would choose a "communist government" rather than be slaves to any foreign country (*UPI*, July 22).

PATRIOTISM VERSUS BOMBS

ALONGSIDE the development of the struggle of the urban population is a vast front of all the other strata of the South Viet Nam people, embracing the overwhelming majority of the rural population, who are fighting with matchless valour against U.S. aggression. That front controls four-fifths of the territory and more than 10 million people. Even allowing the modest estimates by the U.S. press, the front controls 80 per cent of the rural population (*U.S. News and World Report*, March 31) and is so deep-seated in South Viet Nam that even the most cruel schemes of the tyrant Ngo Dinh Diem had failed to root it out. And today, all the U.S. designed schemes of "winning the mind and hearts of the population" combined with the "burn all, kill all, destroy all" operations have also proved futile.

This front has rallied the broadest patriotic strata to carry forward the tradition of indomitable struggle of a people who have fought through different periods of resistance against foreign aggressions (especially against the French colonialists) and who have seen the fruits of their nine years of struggle robbed by the puppets, henchmen of the U.S. imperialists when they scrapped the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

This front represents a movement which reflects deep aspirations for independence, democracy and peace of the population even in the prisons and concentration camps of the U.S.-Diem regime, in the thick system of military bases and on the soil trodden by the hobnailed shoes of the American "advisers." For all the distortion by the American propaganda, it cannot hide the truth already recognized by large sections of Western public opinion: "The Viet Cong (Western designation for the patriots and Liberation Armed Forces of South Viet Nam — *Ed.*) are first of all South Vietnamese. The movement first established its foundation in South Viet Nam. This is an insurrection from inside against the dictatorial regime of Ngo Dinh Diem..." (General Kyly speaking over the French Radio and Television on the evening of March 23, 1967).

If it is only a movement of a few people and Communists no support from the broad masses, how can the Liberation Armed Forces attack any base and any city or town controlled by the U.S. as Saigon or Hue, to the extent that the U.S. has itself admitted it has no way to prevent such attacks? If the resistance in South Viet Nam is not a broad people's and guerilla war, why are a million U.S. and puppet troops pinned down everywhere and sustaining increasing casualties so that they are more and more driven to a passive and defensive position? If that resistance movement is the activity of only a number of local terrorists or a number of "North Viet Nam units" as claimed by the Americans, why has it expanded so rapidly in the past years that it becomes almost unbelievable to the Americans? If the "Viet Cong" are a minority as the U.S. claims, how can they "organize the masses," "recruit the manpower they need" in the vast rural areas embracing 80 per cent of the population and conduct an "all-out war" as remarked *AP* on July 7, 1967, a thing which, the same agency conceded, was impossible for the Saigon puppet administration?

The final conclusions of the first session of the Bertrand Russell International War Crimes Tribunal held in Stockholm have refuted what is called the "aggression by North Viet Nam" simply because there can be no question of a nation committing aggression against itself, and because the Pentagon had produced imaginary figures. Even if it is true that 50,000 North Viet Nam troops are in South Viet Nam, one cannot but recognize the people's character of the South Vietnamese people's resistance if one compares this number to the colossal force deployed by the U.S. and its satellites.

In fact, following its failure in the "special war," the U.S. sent an expeditionary army to South Viet Nam to wage a war of extermination. This once again and in a more urgent manner than ever, has placed the Vietnamese people before the crucial choice between independence, freedom and enslavement, dependence. The intensification and broadening of the American war in the past few years has only provoked a very stiff resistance on the part of the Vietnamese people who have since defeated all the schemes of the enemy to win the victory of today. The huge amount of hardware spent by the Americans in Viet Nam has the only effect of creating steel-like fighters who are dreaded and admired even by American high-ranking officers.

Since Washington brazenly waged a war of destruction against North Viet Nam, the U.S. aggressors have been confronting the monolithic solidarity of the overwhelming majority of the Vietnamese in both South and North. The determination to liberate the South, defend the North and ultimately achieve the reunification of the country has become a battlecry, a mighty impetus for the whole of our Vietnamese people because it tallies with the fundamental interests of our people as recognized by international agreements.

THE ONLY BANNER AND VOICE

THOSE who are conversant with the situation in Viet Nam have seen that the South Vietnamese people had risen up against the U.S.-backed Saigon regime long before the emergence of the National Front for Liberation. The general uprisings of the patriots in the Mekong Delta shook the Ngo Dinh Diem regime as early as 1958-1959. Another hardly deniable reality is that the puppet army and the police regime of Saigon had carried out a bloody repression of the revolutionary movement long before the appearance of the golden-starred, half-blue-and-half-red flag of the N.F.L. The Front actually was born from this revolutionary high tide, this struggle against oppression, and has grown and matured with its resounding victories. Even public opinion in the West has recognized that the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is at present the most powerful and best organized force in South Viet Nam beside the small and scattered reactionary political groups engaged in permanent disputes. For the N.F.L. has rallied the broadest strata of the South Viet Nam population and is placed under the leadership of the staunchest fighters who represent the best patriotic traditions of struggle against foreign aggressions and who are most loyal to the interests of the people. Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho is one among these fine images. A cadre in the former resistance against the French war of reconquest, he led the famous demonstration in Saigon on January 15, 1950 against the U.S. interventionists. Later, following the conclusion of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, he took part in the leadership of the peace movement in South Viet Nam. Arrested and jailed by the Ngo Dinh Diem regime, he managed to evade from prison and joined the National Front

(Continued page 7)

Reportage of the Paper GIAI PHONG, Organ of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.

The Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

IN the jubilant atmosphere of the great Winter-Spring victory and the brilliant feats of arms in the rainy season, the South Viet Nam N.F.L. held an extraordinary Congress to adopt a political programme aimed at stepping up the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation and securing even greater victories.

Attending the Congress, apart from members of the Presidium and the Central Committee of the Front, were representatives of the Front committees at all levels from Quang Tri to Ca Mau, from the highlands to the delta, of the Liberation Armed Forces, various nationalities, religious communities, political parties, workers', peasant, women's, youth and student organizations, as well as personalities, intellectuals, industrialists and businessmen from Saigon, Can Tho, My Tho, Hue, Da Nang and Da Lat cities, representatives of overseas Vietnamese and Chinese residents and of North Vietnamese induced to move South.

Also present were many heroes, heroines and model combatants of the L.A.F., valiant anti-U.S., anti-armoured car and "determined-to-win" fighters from various battlefields, and representatives of the three emulation banners—"Quang Nam, loyal, courageous and stubborn in leading the fight against the U.S. aggressors," "Cu Chi, the steel land and brass wall" and "Long An, loyal, courageous and stubborn in the fight of its whole people against the aggressor." The Congress was also attended by many mothers and sisters distinguished for their achievements in political struggles, representatives of the political army of Ben Tre — the land of the "simultaneous uprisings," of various arms factories, of the communication, liaison, postal and transport services, and of the young volunteers' brigades and voluntary carriers. There was also a number of heads and deputy-heads of the Front's missions abroad. In addition, there were many representatives of the cultural, literary, artistic, educational and medical services, pressmen from central and regional papers and correspondents of *GPA* (Liberation Press Agency) and *Giai Phong* (Liberation) Radio.

Representatives of the mutinous troops in the puppet First Armoured Regiment also participated in the Congress.

The "Peaceful Co-Existence" faction and a group of coupist officers were also guests of the conference.

Over 200 delegates from various parts of South Viet Nam and various battlefields had climbed high mountains and crosses large rivers or left the enemy-held areas to get together under the banner of the great cause of the N.F.L. to discuss state and people's affairs, proud of their position as victors and men resolved to win.

The Congress was the impersonation of the great national union in the period of the anti-U.S. resistance.

In an atmosphere full of fighting spirit, elation, optimism and confidence, the Presidium of the Congress led by President Nguyen Huu Tho entered the meeting hall amidst a rousing ovation.

Dr. Phung Van Cung, Vice-President of the Presidium of the N.F.L. Central Committee, took the floor and delivered the opening address. After extending greetings to the delegates and underlining the significance of the Extraordinary Congress, Vice-President Phung Van Cung declared it opened.

Amidst a long and warm applause, Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the N.F.L. Central Committee mounted the rostrum. After greeting the delegates and inquiring about their health, President Nguyen Huu Tho delivered an important speech.

In the first part of the report, he made a penetrating analysis of the great changes in the South Viet Nam situation since the founding of the Front, and on this basis, outlined the tasks of the South Vietnamese people in the present crucial stage of the struggle. He laid particular stress on the pressing needs and the vast possibilities for the realization of great national union designed to increase the resistance forces and lead the fight for the liberation of South Viet Nam to complete victory.

"The burden of miseries caused by the aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys," President Nguyen Huu Tho pointed out, "is weighing heavily on the people of all social strata in South Viet Nam without exception, from workers and peasants to intellectuals, industrialists, businessmen, religious people and even those serving in the puppet administration and army. Nowadays, in South Viet Nam, practically everybody has realized that the U.S. imperialists are the aggressors and war-makers, the arch enemies of the Vietnamese nation. With nearly half a million U.S. and satellite troops and over half a million puppet troops, the U.S. imperialists are trampling upon our country, massacring our fellow countrymen, depriving our people of all democratic liberties, oppressing and exploiting them, paying no regard to their lives, plundering their property, and badly hurting everybody's sense of dignity and feelings. All those who want to live a decent life and still keep some shreds of human conscience and self-respect find it impossible to remain indifferent to the fate of the nation in danger, to stand aloof from the fight of the entire people."

President Nguyen Huu Tho continued: "Over the past seven years since the coming into being of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., the people of all strata in South Viet Nam, broadly and closely united under the banner of the great cause of the Front, have successively won many great victories of strategic significance resulting in far-reaching changes in the situation in South Viet Nam. The people's anti-U.S. forces have been growing in strength and maintaining and developing the initiative of attack and have more and more clearly proved fully capable of foiling all his aggressive schemes and plans. Despite all their barbarous and sinister schemes to subdue our people, the U.S. imperialists and their flunkeys have met with repeated, heavy defeats and have been driven deeper and deeper into a defensive position and stalemate, and are now in the process of collapse.

"The ever greater victories of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people testify to the invincible strength of the militant solidarity of the 14 million South Vietnamese people. In face of this strength, all frenzied and desperate efforts of the U.S. imperialists and their hirelings are but paltry attempts of insane people who are knocking their heads against a brass wall.

"The victories recorded by the South Vietnamese people over the past seven years are closely associated with the correct line of the N.F.L. and the clear-sighted leadership of its Central Committee. They have proved the complete soundness of the Front's lines and policies expounded in its programme made public in 1960 and given concrete expression and expanded by the Front's March 1962 and January 1964 Congresses.

"It is clear that the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is the leader and organizer of the successes of the South Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. It is fully able to rally and unite under its banner all patriotic forces in South Viet Nam to fulfil the historic mission of defeating the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrowing their puppet administration, establishing a broad national democratic coalition administration, building an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and proceeding towards the peaceful reunification of the country."

Concluding the first part of the report, President Nguyen Huu Tho exposed the current moves and schemes of the U.S. imperialists to intensify their war of aggression and stressed:

"So long as our armed forces and people have not yet frustrated the aggressive designs of the U.S. imperialists and completely overthrown their puppet administration, they are still resorting to barbarous and vicious means of war to subdue our people and maintain their domination. And on our road to final victory, the South Vietnamese people must steadily strengthen their fighting will, heighten their vigilance, persistently and resolutely overcome all kinds of hardships and difficulties, spare no efforts to consolidate and broaden the unity of the entire people, mobilize all capacities and forces, and, in the wake of their victories, rush forward to defeat the enemy."

In the second part of the report, President Nguyen Huu Tho threw light on the necessity to develop the spirit and substance of the 10-Point Programme proclaimed by the Front in 1960 so as to suit the new situation.

He devoted a considerable amount of time to explain fundamental points concerning the lines and policies expounded in the Political Programme. He specifically defined the Political Programme as a five-fold programme:

1. Programme of the struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation and for national liberation,

2. Programme of great national union,

3. Programme of national construction,

4. Programme of eventual reunification of the Fatherland by peaceful means, and

5. Programme of solidarity with the world's peoples against U.S.-led imperialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

He placed particular emphasis on the following problems:

Regarding the objectives of the South Vietnamese people's struggle and the road to these objectives, he pointed out:

"The objectives of the South Vietnamese people's struggle under the leadership of the N.F.L. are as follows: independence, denocracy, peace, neutrality and prosperity, and eventual peaceful national reunification. These represent the most cherished, legitimate aspirations and the iron will of the 14 million South Vietnamese people, which are fully compatible with the interests of the nation as well as of peace in Indo-China, Asia and the rest of the world.

"The U.S. imperialists have tried hard to misrepresent the patriotic movement of the South Vietnamese people led by the N.F.L. Their aim is to divide our forces and dupe world public opinion. But hard facts in South Viet Nam have eloquently demonstrated that here, there is only a life-and-death struggle between the South Vietnamese people on the one side, and the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys on the other.

"It is common knowledge that the various puppet administrations, from Ngo Dinh Diem to Thieu-Ky, are merely a gang of U.S.-paid servants and traitors to the nation who represent nobody."

After reiterating that the 14 million South Vietnamese people would fight to the end to attain, at all costs, their just objectives, President Nguyen Huu Tho pointed out:

"The only right path for the South Vietnamese people to independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and prosperity, and eventual peaceful reunification of the country, is to continue stepping up the sacred resistance war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation until not a single U.S. aggressor remains in our beloved South Viet Nam."

Exposing and condemning the "peace" swindle of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, President Nguyen Huu Tho said:

"The U.S. aggressors and their lackeys are clamouring for peace without let up. But facts show that each time the U.S. imperialists talk of 'peace,' they actually intensify and expand the war. As for the Thieu-Ky clique, they can do nothing but serve as best as they can the aggressive schemes of the U.S. imperialists."

He went on:

"We ardently love peace, but definitively not peace in slavery. As long as the U.S. imperialists still trample upon our country, there can be no peace. Therefore, the South Vietnamese people, millions as one, have for a long time been prepared to endure all sacrifices and hardships, resolved to rise up in arms to wipe out the enemy, save the country and win peace. So long as the U.S. imperialists still resort to violence to subdue our people, we shall continue to fight until complete victory."

President Nguyen Huu Tho concluded this part by saying: "The U.S. imperialists should know that no brutal force can intimidate and subdue a people who have sworn to make all sacrifices to achieve independence and freedom. In this protracted and arduous life-and-death struggle, the victors will unquestionably be the South Vietnamese people, because justice is on our side, our line of struggle is correct, we have the strength of national union and the wholehearted and unreserved help of our Northern compatriots, and we enjoy the sympathy and support of the whole of peace-and justice-loving mankind, including the progressive people in the U.S."

After recalling and demonstrating that the Front's policy has all along been to continually broaden the bloc of great national union, President Nguyen Huu Tho stressed:

"Our people are winning great victories. Everybody is enthusiastically and zealously engaged in wiping out the enemy and achieving exploits. The enemy is sustaining big defeats, his ranks are torn by serious confusion and deep dissensions, never has he been so isolated as at present. The nearer his doom, the more he shows his obduracy and indulge in atrocities, and the more our people hate and oppose him. In such conditions, the broadening of the bloc of great national union assumes an even more important significance and there are vast possibilities to realize it."

President Nguyen Huu Tho pointed out:

"All the Front's policies laid down in the Political Programme are imbued with the national democratic spirit, the spirit of great national union in the fight against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and for national construction. These policies give full consideration to the interests of the entire people, from the broad masses of the working people who have been making great contributions to the just cause of the nation, to other sections of the people.

"At the same time, these policies have shown the right path for those in the ranks of the puppet army and administration to return to the people's side and save the country and themselves."

In conclusion, President Nguyen Huu Tho dealt with the bright prospects of the South Viet Nam people's situation. He said:

"We are in a winning position, a position of strength, we are holding the initiative and we are on the offensive. The enemy is losing and is on the defensive, in a stalemate and on the verge of collapse. Turning to account the great victories already won, carrying aloft the banner of great national union and struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the South Vietnamese people are resolved to march forward to achieve bigger victories so as to liberate the South, defend the North and proceed towards the peaceful reunification of the country. The Front's 10-Point Programme has yielded the splendid successes of today. The Political Programme adopted at this Congress will certainly lead the South Vietnamese to complete victory."

President Nguyen Huu Tho's important report on the Political Programme was warmly applauded many times, and when he finished, the entire audience was fired with enthusiasm, and confidence in victory filled the hearts of all the delegates.

In this atmosphere of stirring optimism and confidence Mr. Huynh Tan Phat, Vice-President of the Presidium and Secretary General of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., on its behalf, presented the draft of the Political Programme. In a clear and coherent manner, he made plain its substance. The whole audience attentively followed every word and every sentence of this historic document.

The Congress also heard 27 speeches by the Front's representatives at all levels, and by delegates representing the Saigon - Gia Dinh people, the South Viet Nam L.A.F., various nationalities, religious communities, political parties mass organizations, services, overseas Vietnamese, Chinese residents, industrialists and businessmen, and a number of speeches by personalities and intellectuals from various towns and cities as well as representatives of North Vietnamese induced to emigrate to the South. All the speeches expressed the unanimous approval of the people of all strata for the line of struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation and for the building of an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and for eventual peaceful reunification of the country.

The delegates also expressed complete identity of views with the draft Political Programme of the N.F.L. Central Committee. After seven days' sitting in high spirit and in full battle array, braving torrential rains and windstorms, and defying enemy bombs and shells, the delegates conducted lively discussions, made important and realistic suggestions, and brought the Congress to a successful end.

At the closing session, all the delegates unanimously adopted the Political Programme and the Communique of the Congress and entrusted the Central Committee of the N.F.L. with the task of enforcing, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Political Programme, practical policies concerning the rights and obligations of various strata of the people, nationalities, religious communities, etc.

The Congress wound up with a roaring ovation, brimming with the South Vietnamese people's dauntless spirit of determination to fight and to win and firm confidence in final victory.

PEOPLE'S WAR IN SOUTH VIET NAM

Volunteers joining the army

Supplying the front

Woman guerilla fighters

THE SOUTH VIET NAM N.F.L. IN THE WORLD

THE N.F.L. is the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people.

Only a few years ago, this great and bright truth was still hidden by a veil of dense smoke brought about by deceitful arguments, false reports on events, and other machiavellian manoeuvres from the gigantic propaganda machine of the imperialists, especially from the American one. It was then said that "the N.F.L. was the political arm of the Vietcong" and "the Vietcong was the military arm of communism."

It was no easy work for the N.F.L. — whose voice had not a long range, whose relations were limited and whose information means rather poor — to tear off such a thick veil and dispose of such noxious propaganda.

The N.F.L. has, however, achieved its fundamental ends. American imperialism, its mortal enemy, has been badly beaten.

Although the enemy pretend to ignore the N.F.L., they have daily to take into consideration the N.F.L. in any decision. No diplomatic activity, not a single move of the U.S. imperialists can be undertaken without due regard to the interaction between it and the N.F.L. issue.

The N.F.L. is now represented in nearly all socialist countries, in many important countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Near East, the Middle East... Many governments regard the N.F.L. representations as official diplomatic organs of sovereign countries (Cuba, D.P.R. of Korea, Cambodia...). Cuba, which was the first state to recognize the N.F.L., has appointed an ambassador to the N.F.L.

G.P.A. (Liberation News Agency) has branch offices in some ten countries.

A dozen important international bodies have admitted N.F.L. organizations as members and appointed them to their secretariats or presidiums.. Every year, hundreds of N.F.L. delegations pay friendship visits to various countries or attend national or international conferences in most of which discussions focus on the Viet Nam problem in general and the South Viet Nam problem in particular.

The 20th of July (anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreements) and the 20th of December (founding day of the N.F.L.) have been chosen by many national and international organizations as "Viet Nam Day" or "Day of Solidarity with the South Vietnamese People" (Tri-Continental Conference of Solidarity with Viet Nam, March 1966 in Havana).

Recognizing the N.F.L. as the sole genuine representative of South Viet Nam, nearly 30 governments and 500 mass organizations have voiced their support to the N.F.L. position expressed in its 5-point statement of March 22, 1965.

The above successes have constituted a hard fact that has driven the U.S. imperialists mad: the N.F.L.'s voice has found a deep echo in international life.

Washington has engineered the Saigon "presidential election" farce to prettify their actors Thieu and Ky, thus hoping to wrest some measure of influence from the N.F.L. What a vain illusion!

Two years ago, president Nguyen Huu Tho remarked: "Many countries, many important international organizations and the peoples of various countries regard the N.F.L. as the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people."

At the beginning of 1965, *UPI*'s Saigon and Asia Correspondent Arthur Dommen declared with bitterness that the N.F.L. was holding the key to the future. In her letter to President Nguyen Huu Tho in 1965, an American citizen, Charlotte Paulin, wrote that the founding of the N.F.L. gave a great importance to South Viet Nam, cradle of an attractive political and philosophical thought and organization bound to spread all over the world.

THE great and fast growing prestige of the N.F.L. on the international scene originates from the justice and the resounding successes of the South Vietnamese people's sacred struggle against U.S. aggression. The successes of the N.F.L. are throwing light on the revolutionary truth and giving progressive mankind an unshakable confidence in the effectiveness of its struggle and its bright prospects.

The N.F.L. flag, a symbol of justice and confidence, has been held aloft in many places in the world.

It has appeared not only in N.F.L.-recognizing countries but also in Washington's "allied," "friendly" and "satellite" countries, under significant circumstances. In England, Italy, France, in far remote Scandinavian countries' capitals and hundreds of cities, the tearing of the U.S. flag and the hoisting of the N.F.L. flag in demonstrations against U.S. aggression in Viet Nam (July 20, 1965, in co-ordination with the November 1965 Peace March on Washington, in protest against the bombing of Hanoi) have taken place.

In Japan, the N.F.L. flag has been paraded through city streets with the people demonstrating for the defence of their rights, particularly during annual anti-H and A bombs campaigns.

Even on the American soil, in Washington, New York, San Francisco,... the N.F.L. flag has appeared on more than one significant occasion (the first time, in a demonstration in front of the Congress building, Aug. 6-9, 1965; during the Dec. 24, 1965 March on Washington rallying 50,000 people, the March 25, 1967 demonstration with 250,000 people, the April 25, 1967 demonstrations in New York and San Francisco with 500,000 people...)

The world movement of support to the Vietnamese people is an unprecedented one in history. Its significance lies not only in the number of supporters (individuals, countries, organizations), the variety of its forms, and the effectiveness of its activities, but also in its very origin: it has arisen from the deep realization by the world's people of the position and purport of the South Vietnamese people's struggle in the defence of the socialist camp, the movement of national liberation and the defence of peace.

In this worldwide movement, the tearing of the U.S. flag and the flying of the N.F.L. flag testify to the prestige of the N.F.L. They show that more and more peoples in the world are siding staunchly with the South Vietnamese people and the Vietnamese people in general.

Thus the world's peoples are fully aware of the impact of the Vietnamese people's struggle on the fate of many peoples and nations. As Jean Paul Sartre put it: "Indomitable Viet Nam is our last freedom."

Demonstration in Stockholm on May 1, 1967. The streamer in the Vietnamese reads: "U.S. imperialists, quit South Viet Nam."

In Reykiavik (Island), on Independence Day last year, demonstrators displayed in front of the American Embassy the South Viet Nam N.F.L. flag and a poster bearing an extract of the Declaration of Independence of the U.S.A.

LATEST PUBLICATIONS (in English and French)

AGAINST U.S. AGGRESSION FOR NATIONAL SALVATION

by President HO CHI MINH

SOUTH VIET NAM — INEVITABLE U.S. DEFEAT

by General VAN TIEN DUNG

SOUTH VIET NAM — INITIAL FAILURE OF U.S. LIMITED WAR

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Flop of A Farce

THE so-called Saigon election, painstakingly staged by the Americans for a good 20 months, took place last Sunday Sept. 3, 1967. They sought thereby to stabilize their stooge, the Saigon puppet administration, legalize the military junta by giving it the "people-elected" and "constitutional" label and enable it to carry on the aggressive war in Viet Nam without the anathema of public opinion in the world and the U.S. The curtain is dropped. What sense does this election make for Washington as to its policy in South-East Asia?

A CONTINUATION OF POLICE METHODS

WASHINGTON AND THE SAIGON ELECTION FARCE

IN fact, American intention had been betrayed by Maxwell Taylor as early as the beginning of 1965 when he called for the formation, the sooner the better, of a stable government in Saigon which would be in a position to wage war against the Viet Cong (*Reuter*, Jan. 5, 1965). Early in 1966, Johnson personally came to Honolulu to scheme this election farce with his puppets. He gave it finishing touches in Manila in Oct. 1966 and in Guam in 1967. Yet, during the election campaign held by the puppet administration, the U.S. declared that it remained neutral, while the CIA printed leaflets and distributed them all over Saigon to campaign for Nguyen Van Thieu and Nguyen Cao Ky. The Western press acknowledged that this farce had been staged by the U.S. from the beginning to the end. The *New York Times* on Aug. 13 wrote that not a few Americans found that the election advocated by U.S. authorities and carried out by Thieu and Ky was merely a tragic fraud. As *Reuter* put it on Aug. 17, judging from what had been said and done, this election took place essentially at Washington's request. Therefore Thieu and Ky's victory in the election was a foregone conclusion (*AP*, Sept. 3). The French paper *Le Monde* on Sept. 4 commented, "This is an election the result of which has been known beforehand." Thus, this election was a sheer mockery no matter how it had unfolded.

When in a small area covering only one-fifth of South Vietnam's territory which they could control, with one quarter of the total population living in it, over half a million U.S. and satellite troops and as many as U.S.-commanded puppet troops were continually pointing their guns and bayonets at the people, what show of democracy was to be expected from the election? This remained an unanswerable question for Mr. Johnson. U.S. Senator Joseph S. Clark noted that the majority of the South Vietnamese people inhabited 12,537 hamlets, only 168 of which, according to *New York Times* estimates, were under full government control. In such circumstances, in his opinion, it was clear that the election would become meaningless as the people returned did not represent the will of the South Vietnamese people (*UPI*, Aug. 19).

SHEER FRAUD AND DUPERY

FRAUD, fraud, and fraud! This outcry was heard following remark by *AP*: "U.S. officials held that American ambassador Bunker had done an outstanding job when he predicted who would win the election, the total number of ballots and the percentage of the votes secured by various tickets."

Mr. Johnson and the puppet administration had also staged another comedy,—inviting observers in to witness their election. Switching on the neon-light to welcome visitors to their shop-window, they achieved nothing with their trick. Turkish correspondent Mehmet Ali Kislali wrote: "As a foreign correspondent coming here for the first time, I am surprised to notice the lack of interest among Vietnamese in the presidential election. It will be difficult for the South Viet Nam and U.S. governments to convince world public opinion of the fairness of the election if Thieu and Ky are elected." Yet the U.S. State Department and ambassador Bunker kept claiming that the election was meaningful and that the polling was much heavier than in the American presidential election of 1964. It was a poor farce indeed.

GLOOMY PROSPECTS

THE Americans lavished praises on the election, but the people involved released torrents of invectives and quarrelled with one another. Truong Dinh Du and Phan Khac Suu threatened to take up the matter before the Assembly. Thieu and Ky hinted that they would denounce Du for his illegal money transfer. There have been clamours for establishing hostile "fronts."

Which will the American master appoint premier of the puppet cabinet, Tran Van Huong or Truong Dinh Du, who have got the largest number of votes among civilian candidates? This may possibly lead to more wrangling between the civilians and the military. Prospects are no better concerning the relations between Thieu and Ky, the two pro American chieftains. The bringing of 49 puppet army officers, including 7 generals, before the "disciplinary council" (among them general Dang Van Quang, former commander of the 4th Corps and now Minister of Planning) has aggravated the tension not only among the generals but also between Thieu and Ky.

Forecasting these gloomy prospects one day after the election, *UPI* said, "U.S. pressure has created the Saigon Government. These persons are opponents of one another and dislike one another, thus rendering this government unstable."

Another worth-noticing thing is that Nguyen Cao Ky who led the government through two stormy years and now has to step down under pressure will unquestionably not accept the restrictions imposed on the vice-presidency, an unimportant office under the Constitution. Ky and other generals have begun discussing measures to help them keep the supreme power.

Who Are the Belligerent Parties in South Viet Nam?

(Continued from page 3)

for Liberation to become soon one of its leaders.

More important still, with its Political Programme, its slogan of action namely Independence, Peace, Democracy, Neutrality and betterment of the people's living conditions, and its line of resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the Front now represents the most ardent aspirations of the South Vietnamese people and has set forth the most urgent problems and the most rational way to solve the South Viet Nam issue. This political line of the Front has proved completely correct through the past years' victorious struggle. No force opposing the Saigon regime, both in South Viet Nam and elsewhere, has obtained such a result because all of them have been handicapped by many limitations. As for the Saigon ruling circle, they are nothing but a group of hirelings of the U.S. imperialists. Through the continual heightening of the Front's prestige among the masses, the maintenance and expansion of the Front-controlled areas in spite of the stepped up attacks by the U.S., the alliance of action between the Front and the forces opposing the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique together with the increasing role of the Front in the international arena, it can be said that the Front is the authentic, the only authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people.

As already known, the N.F.L has recently made public a new political programme capable of broadening and strengthening the union of the entire people to fight the U.S. aggressors for national salvation and to build South Viet Nam after victory.

THE ESSENCE OF THE PROBLEM

IT is clear that at present the overwhelming majority of the people in South Viet Nam are opposing in one way or another the aggression of the U.S. and its stooge, the Saigon administration. In other words, that is a movement for national liberation, a movement for peace and freedom of the South Vietnamese people against the neo-colonialist type war of aggression of the United States.

French President de Gaulle declared: "The war which is dragging on in South-East Asia is an unjust war because it is in fact the outcome of the armed intervention of the U.S. in Viet Nam. A detestable war, for it leads a big nation to destroy a smaller one..." (*AP*, Dec. 31)

U. N. Secretary General U Thant recently made a sensible statement when he declared: "It is nationalism and not communism that animates the resistance movement in Viet Nam against all foreigners, and now particularly against Americans. Those Vietnamese who have fought and still fight against foreigners do so to win their national independence." (*UPI*, July 31)

All correct opinion on the Viet Nam problem condemns the U.S. aggressive war and supports the Vietnamese people's struggle for liberation.

SOUTH VIETNAM

L.A.F. VIOLENT ATTACKS

⊙ **THUA THIEN**: Attack on Phu Bai Airbase: 50 U.S. Aircraft Destroyed, 150 Officers and Intelligence Agents Killed or Wounded (August 30).

⊙ **QUANG TRI**: 200 Enemy Troops Put out of Action, 5 M.113s Set Afire and 5 Transports Sunk (September 1 and 2).

⊙ **QUANG NAM**: The L.A.F. Controlled Tam Ky Town for 4 Hours (Night of September 5).

THUA THIÊN

G.P.X. reported that on August 30, 1967 at 1 a.m. the airbase at Phu Bai had been violently attacked by Thua Thien L.A.F. who destroyed 50 planes. At the same time the U.S. intelligence technical centre at Phu Bai lying between an armoured unit and the Dong Da military training centre was assaulted. After one hour's fighting, the position was razed to the ground: nearly all the enemy forces including 150 U.S. and puppet officers and intelligence agents were wiped out, all the equipment and 40 vehicles destroyed, an ammunition dump and a fuel depot burnt.

One day before (Aug. 28), the Quang Dien military sub-sector, 10 km northwest of Hue and a U.S. Marine unit stationed on Height 49 were attacked and suffered heavy losses. 7 choppers were sent to Height 49 to clear away the dead and the wounded.

QUANG TRI

G.P.X. reported that on Sept. 1, the L.A.F. attacked the enemy in Hai Lang district town, 8 km southeast of Quang Tri. In 10 minutes they completely wiped out the U.S. artillery units, destroying 4 105 mm cannons, many barracks and ammunition depots.

Also according to *G.P.X.*, on Sept. 1, the L.A.F. intercepted two columns of American and puppet troops raiding a locality 6 km from Cua Viet. Receiving a staggering blow, the Yankees fled to Cua Viet, leaving the puppet troops in the lurch, but were shelled by the L.A.F. on Sept. 2, at 5.30 a.m. The enemy losses amounted to 200 casualties and 5 armoured cars burnt.

Meanwhile, the L.A.F. sank 5 military transports east of Dong Ha town.

QUANG NAM

IN the night of Sept. 6, the L.A.F. attacked simultaneously the enemy positions in Tam Ky town, including the sector C.P. at Quang Tin, blew up many bridges, cut off all lines of supply and reinforcement to the town and controlled it for 4 hours.

Four days before (Sept. 1) the L.A.F. had hammered at these positions and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

On Sept. 4, in the same province, the L.A.F. intercepted two U.S. Marine companies, Regiment 5, Division 1, 48km south of Da Nang. The enemy admitted he had suffered 138 casualties and had 4 choppers downed.

In the night of Sept. 1, the L.A.F. stormed a U.S. logistic base and a post of U.S. Marine Regiment 7 respectively 18km north and 16km west of Da Nang. The Yankees disclosed they had 7 transport planes destroyed or damaged and 49 men killed or wounded.

Three days before (Aug. 28), simultaneously with the attack on Nuoc Man airbase, the L.A.F. stormed many posts between 20 km and 30km south of Quang Nam town: 1 enemy company and 4 platoons were wiped out, 50 soldiers captured, 2 155mm guns, 2 mortars and 15 machine guns destroyed. The hardest hit was the Go Thong post where puppet Company 3, Battalion 2, Regiment and 5, one artillery platoon were put out of action.

G.P.X. has just given further details on the attack against Hoi An town and other urban centres in the night of Aug. 26: 400 U.S. and puppet troops put out of action, 19 cannons, 3 81mm mortars and 19 military vehicles destroyed.

OTHER VICTORIES

ON Sept. 2, at J'rai, 25 military trucks were intercepted by the L.A.F. on Road 19, west of An Khe. The enemy admitted 26 G.I.'s were wiped out.

In the night of Aug. 30, 6 enemy posts in Phu Yen town and other urban centres were assaulted: many barracks and fortifications were destroyed and a great number of enemy troops put out of action.

In Quang Ngai on Aug. 29, the L.A.F. hammered at 4 posts in an area 25 km long by 24 km wide, wiping out hundreds of soldiers and liberating 1,300 civilians detained by the enemy.

In Kien Phong province, in the night of Aug. 28, the L.A.F. killed 74 enemy soldiers, wounded 39 others, destroyed 4 barracks and many ammunition depots of a military training centre.

In the night of Aug. 29, a U.S. base located 17 km northeast of Bien Hoa town was shelled: the barracks, parking ground and ammunition depots were hit with great losses.

On Aug. 28, in a night attack against many logistic bases and administrative offices in Can Tho city, the L.A.F. wiped out over 200 G.I.'s and puppet troops.

5 enemy posts in an "open arms" centre, Chau Thanh district, 2km from Tan An town, were overrun: 3 puppet platoons and 1 section were put out of action.

On Aug. 26, the L.A.F. wiped out a company staff and one platoon of puppet Division 25 in Go Den townlet, Cholon province.

NONG SON STRONGHOLD OVERRUN IN NEXT TO NO TIME

Reportage of G.P.X. (Liberation Press Agency)

THE Nong Son stronghold lay on the left of the Thu Bon River, 22 kilometres northeast of Que Son, atop a craggy hill about 150 metres high, 300 metres long and 500 metres wide. The biggest and the most important of its kind in the Nong Son area defensive network, it was guarded by Battalion 2 and an artillery company of U.S. Marine Division 1.

Around the post, the slopes were steep (between 50° and 80°). From the hill foot, only a car road ran sharply up to it. Along with a network of secondary strongholds and "strategic hamlets," it was defended by a 50-metre wide belt of barbed wire, minefields, walls, trenches and electric wire linked with the headquarters. Inside it, the underground buildings were protected on top by a 50 centimetre thick layer of concrete and sand bags.

On the night of July 4, the Quang Nam L.A.F. launched a violent attack on the Nong Son position. At 10.30 p.m. after a devastating shelling, they nimbly pushed their many-pronged thrust toward fighting positions previously assigned.

Quick as lightning, Nguyen Van Khoa led a spearhead team which was to stab deep into the American headquarters. In the brightly lit up bunker Yankee officers and soldiers, half-naked, were in a bustle. Khoa stepped back, and motioned his mates forward. Nguyen Khac Manh dashed forth, threw a petard into the shelter then another into the neighbouring radio station. Hien, a new recruit, also hurled his into the C.P.

There were simultaneous thunderous explosions. The light was out in the C.P. which was blown up with all its sand bags and concrete. The whole stronghold rang with the explosions of grenades and machine-gun reports.

Nguyen Khac Minh threw a new charge of explosive into the radio station. After the explosion, he jumped to his feet, reached up to an aerial pole and hung a N.F.L. flag on it. In a scarlet flash, the "Determined to struggle and win" banner was soon proudly fluttering. It was the third minute of the engagement.

At this very minute, Le Tu Sang's spearhead team began to destroy the ammunition depot after blasting two bunkers in the South. Chon's team had finished putting out of action two 155mm guns and two caterpillar trucks.

In the Southwest, Truong Lanh and his men blew up another radio station, the garage for spotlight cars and military vehicles packed on the airstrip. Under Kham's command, the Khiem-Trang-Quyen team destroyed the 3-mortar emplacement and seized a wireless telephone set.

Thunder-struck, the enemy could hardly react to the attack.

With his submachine-gun, Khoa mowed down more than 10 G.I.'s in the trench before the C.P. Minh and Hien took the radio transmitter. Thus, the American C.P. was invested after 5 minutes' fighting.

Both ammunition dumps north and south of the stronghold were set afire. A patch of sky was lit up by the fire and blasts of grenades and bullets. Flag after flag appeared, announcing the L.A.F. victorious advance. In the seventh minute of the engagement, the last flag put an end to the battle after a die-hard gun-nest in the Northwest had been silenced.

Nothing was heard but less and less frequent explosions of grenades and machine-guns from teams pursuing the last ditch fighters. At the twenty-eighth minute, the victory was complete.

Battalion 2 and an artillery company of U.S. Marine Division 1 had been wiped out. The L.A.F. destroyed two 155 mm guns, four 106.7mm and 81mm mortars, 10 heavy machine guns, 7 military vehicles (among them 2 artillery caterpillar trucks), 2 ammunition dumps, 8 wireless sets and a great quantity of military equipment.

At 12.40, a relief party of one U.S. company coming from the hill foot was violently intercepted and lost 50 men.

To erase the traces of its setbacks the U.S. command dropped bombs by the light of flares and wiped out the wounded Americans littering the ground of the post.

Along with the Nong Son battle, guerillas bombarded a nearby position, An Hoa, killing 175 G.I.'s and destroying 3 155mm and 105mm guns.

The big success of the L.A.F. at Nong Son came as a great surprise to the G.I.'s and struck panic into their hearts. It showed that after successful counter-raids at Que Son, Thang Binh, Duy Xuyen resulting in 7,000 enemy troops put out of action, the Quang Nam L.A.F. still had hammer blows in store for the U.S., puppet troops. It showed that the G.I.'s even at battalion strength could get a severe punishment in spite of their well-defended position and great fire power.

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